



NEWS RELEASE

Today's Date: Friday, October 20, 2006 -- 06-054
District: District 2 - Redding
Contact: Denise Yergenson
Phone: (530) 225-3260

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Antlers Bridge Project Public Information Open House

REDDING – The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) will hold a public information open house on Monday, October 30, 2006 to discuss the Antlers Bridge project on Interstate 5 (I-5) in Shasta County at Lakehead. The open house will be held at the Lakehead Lions Club, 20814 Mammoth Drive in Lakehead between 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. The open-house format public information meeting has been scheduled to give you the opportunity to discuss the project with Caltrans staff and provide input regarding project alternatives and environmental issues.

Caltrans, in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration, proposes to replace the Sacramento River (Antlers) Bridge on I-5 over the Sacramento River arm of Shasta Lake near the community of Lakehead. The bridge is at or near the end of its service life. In addition, a 0.4 mile section of highway south of the bridge will be realigned due to an accident rate higher than the statewide average. Traffic will remain on the existing bridge during construction of a new bridge on a parallel alignment. New right of way will be required.

Caltrans has studied the effects this project may have on the environment. These studies indicate that the project, as proposed with mitigation, will not significantly affect the quality of the environment. The report that explains this is called a Draft Initial Study/Environmental Assessment (IS/EA) and was prepared to comply with the California Environmental Quality Act and the National Environmental Policy Act respectively. The Draft IS/EA will be available for public review and comment through November 9, 2006. Based on the findings in this document, if additional information does not become available during the draft circulation period, Caltrans will finalize the document with the approval of a Mitigated Negative Declaration/Finding of No Significant Impact.

Copies of the Draft IS/EA are available during the public review period at the Caltrans District Office at 1657 Riverside Drive in Redding from 8:00 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday and at the Shasta County Library, 1855 Shasta Street in Redding. The document is also available on-line at www.dot.ca.gov/dist3/departments/envinternet/envdoc.htm. A copy will be available at the public open house.

For more information on this project please contact Eric Akana, Project Manager, at 530-225-3530 or the Public Information Office at 530-225-3260.

###

NOTE: An electronic version of this news release is available on the internet at the following web address: http://www.dot.ca.gov/dist2/news_releases.htm

